

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 08299 251825Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01

OPR-02 A-01 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 /097 W

----- 023916

R 251734Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3785

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 8299

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, SP

SUBJECT: WORKERS COMMISSIONS, STRIKE CONVOCATIONS, AND PCE

PROPAGANDA

REF: (1) MADRID 7842; (2) MADRID 7757; (3) MADRID 7451

SUMMARY: COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS HAVE REPORTEDLY MODIFIED THEIR GOAL OF A NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE, AND NOW HOPE TO INCITE LOCALIZED STRIKES, STARTING WITH MADRID CONSTRUCTION AND METAL WORKERS STRIKE NEXT WEEK. SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY (PCE) CONTINUES TO MAKE APPEALS FOR STRIKES AND OTHER ACTIONS IN ITS PROPAGANDA IN HOPES OF INCITING OPPOSITION. END SUMMARY.

1. SOURCE IN COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS TOLD LABATT PLANS OF WORKERS COMMISSIONS TO CONVOKE NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE ATTEMPT WITHIN WEEK OR 10 DAYS OF FRANCO'S DEATH (REF 1) HAVE
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PAGE 02 MADRID 08299 251825Z

UNDERGONE SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS. SOURCE SAID WORKERS

COMMISSIONS AT TRADE UNION LEVEL, AND PCE-MANIPULATED "JUNTA DEMOCRATICA" AT POLITICAL LEVEL, ARE CONTINUING TO APPEAL IN PROPAGANDA FOR THEIR LONG-STANDING GOAL OF NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE AGAINST JUAN CARLOS SUCCESSOR REGIME UNDER GUISE OF "DEMOCRATIC ACTION BY MASSES", BUT HAVE NOT SET DATE AND APPEAR TO DESIRE DELAY SUCH A NATIONAL ATTEMPT UNTIL MID-DECEMBER OR LATER WHEN THEY BELIEVE CONDITIONS LIKELY BE MORE PROPITIOUS.

2. ADDITIONALLY, SOURCE CLAIMED WORKERS COMMISSIONS AND PCE PLAN CONVOKE A SERIES OF "DAYS OF STRUGGLE" FOR SUCH "DEMOCRATIC ACTION" IN VARIOUS CITIES AND SECTORS ON DIFFERENT DATES, AS PREPARATORY STEPS TO BUILD UP CLIMATE MORE CONDUCTIVE TO NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE ATTEMPT THAN EXISTS AT PRESENT.

3. SOURCE SAID FIRST SUCH INITIAL LOCALIZED STRIKE ATTEMPT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN MADRID NEXT WEEK, AND WOULD BE LIMITED TO CONSTRUCTION AND METAL WORKER SECTORS. IN LATTER SECTOR WORKERS COMMISSIONS HOPE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CURRENT DISCONTENT AT 10,000 WORKER CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILE PLANT OVER DEATH OF THREE WORKERS IN GAS EXPLOSION ONE WEEK AGO, AS WELL AS OF DIFFICULT LABOR CLIMATE AT 11,000 WORKER STANDARD ELECTRICA PLANT (AN ITT SUBSIDIARY) OVER CURRENT CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.

4. SOURCES OF SOCIALIST UGT AND CATHOLI-ORIENTED USO, PRINCIPAL NONCOMMUNIST CLANDESTINE TRADE UNIONS, SAID THEIR ORGANIZATIONS ARE AGAINST PARTICIPATION IN NEXT WEEK'S STRIKE CONVOCACTIONS. WORKERS COMMISSION SOURCE SAID HE AND SEVERAL OTHER NONCOMMUNIST WORKER COMMISSION LEADERS ARE ALSO AGAINST NEXT WEEK'S STRIKE APPEALS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF NEW KING'S MILDLY HOPEFUL NOV 22 INVESTITURE SPEECH, BUT THAT PCE APPEARS ADAMANT.

5. FURTHER CONFUSING SITUATION IS AN ALLEGED APPEAL BY MADRID PROVINCIAL PCE, REPORTED ON RUMANIA-BASED RADIO INDEPENDIENTE ESPANOL BROADCAST ON NOV 22, CALLING, INTER ALIA, ON SPANISH WORKERS TO STRIKE, OCCUPY THE SPANISH SYNDICAL ORGANIZATION, AND MARCH ON SPANISH PRISONS. SOURCE CLAIMED THIS REPRESENTED CLASSIC PCE PROPAGANDA ATTEMPT TO WHIP UP SUPPORT FOR ITS OWN HIGHLY UNREALISTIC VISION OF A REVOLUTIONARY GENERAL STRIKE ATTEMP, AND REPRESENTED MERE WISHFUL
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PAGE 03 MADRID 08299 251825Z

THINKING ON PCE'S PART.

6. SOURCE FELT PCE HAD A BASIC FEAR OF ISOLATION SHOULD NEW REGIME MAKE SERIOUS OVERTURES TOWARD POLITICAL AND LABOR OPPOSITION. HE ALSO FELT PCE'S INTENSIFIED PROPAGANDA FOR STRIKES AND OTHER OPPOSITION ACTIONS WAS ALSO DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON GOVT FOR RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF RECENT ARREST OF TWO TOP PCE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMEBERS INSIDE

SPAIN, I.E., SIMON SANCHEZ MONTERO AND ARMANDO LOPEZ SALINAS,
ALONG WITH FIVE OTHER LESSER PCE MEMBERS, ON NOV 16.
STABLER

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